

Minutes - WAYLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Wayland, Massachusetts 01778

Special Meeting
School Committee Room

Tuesday –7:00 P.M.
August 29, 2017

Present were:
Ellen Grieco, Chair
Nate Buffum
Kim Reichelt
Kathie Steinberg

Absent:
Jeanne Downs

Also:
Arthur Unobskey
Superintendent
Brad Crozier
Assistant Superintendent

Also:
Louis Jurist, Board of Selectmen
Brud Wright, Recreation Commission

Chair Ellen Grieco convened the special session at 7:06 PM; the meeting is being recorded by Way Cam.

1. Comments & Written Statements from the Public

Carole Plumb asked if any documents were available for tonight's meeting. Ellen advised that no documents were uploaded prior to the meeting but they would be uploaded tomorrow. Carole will check for them tomorrow.

2. Special Matter

Update regarding the High School Master Athletic Plan, including Outreach to Other Committees/Boards, Community Members, Staff and Students, Review of Draft Article for Special Town Meeting and Possible Vote to Submit Article

Ellen updated the committee on the CPC process and reported they approved the request for using Community Preservation Committee (CPC) funds for design of Part 2 of the improvement plan. The CPC is legally prevented for expending funds on synthetic turf, and therefore will put forward its own article, for the school committee to co-sponsor, so there was no appearance of CPC sponsoring a turf field. Ellen distributed a draft of the warrant article prepared by Gretchen Schuler, CPC chair.

Ellen discussed how to best put forward the request at Town Meeting given how these request are related and the high school design is interdependent. Ellen

discussed the possibility of putting forth one article with three separate motions, similar to the way the budget is presented. Kathie reported that she spoke with Gretchen who confirmed that CPC wanted to put forward its own separate article.

Louis Jurist expressed that we can expect the articles to be back to back, and having them as “sub-articles” may be confusing.

Discussion ensued about what would happen if the request for Part 1 design fees did not pass. The design for the stadium can be done separately, but the design for Part 2 cannot be done in isolation. If the request for Part 1 fails, it is likely that the article requesting funding for Part 2 will be pulled.

Kathie discussed the options of presenting the articles at Town Meeting. If the request for Part 2 of the design fees is made as a separate article, then Gretchen Schuler would read the motion. The School Committee would then speak to the motion. If approved, Town Meeting gives CPC the authority to use its funds for Part 2 design fees.

The committee discussed going forward at Special TM with a “money article,” especially considering the request for Part 1 design fees is for “new money.” Discussion ensued about the emergency nature of the request given the concern for safety and field failure, given the deterioration of the existing facilities. This issue regarding the ability of the existing athletic program to proceed was a concern. From a planning perspective, requesting design funds in the fall will enable the construction to begin next year and will provide annual town meeting with exact costs of the project.

Louis Jurist referenced that not everyone is in agreement with the Fin Com memo expressing their desire to not have “money articles” at special TM. It is the Board of Selectmen that will decide what is contained in the warrant.

The committee reviewed the three options for presenting the articles at TM. The merits of each option were discussed: the different funding source for each of the requests, the different issues in each of the requests, and how to best frame the discussion for clarity at TM. The committee felt Option C was most effective and would have school committee sponsor the request for design fees for Part 1 of the improvement plan. The Rec commission will sponsor a separate article for the request for design fees for the field at the Loker Conservation and Recreation.

Brud Wright commented on the importance of the Loker field as a solution to the HS problem. Ellen pointed out that the design funds for the Loker field are coming from the Rec stabilization fund and is not “new money” as characterized by the Fin Com memo.

Upon a motion duly made by Ellen Grieco, seconded by Kathie Steinberg, the School Committee voted unanimously (4-0) to co-sponsor the CPC article requesting

authorization to use CPC funds for the design services for Part 2 of the WHS Improvements, the tennis courts/softball field swap and basketball/volleyball courts.

The committee discussed the advantages and disadvantages of combining the requests into one article versus having two separate articles: one for Part 1 and one for the Loker Conservation and Recreation field.

Louis spoke to importance of getting information out beforehand so people are familiar with the master plan.

Upon a motion duly made by Ellen Grieco, seconded by Kathie Steinberg, the School Committee voted unanimously (4-0), to submit a separate warrant articles as drafted in Option C, requesting \$202,000 for design funds for Part 1 of the improvement plan. Upon a motion duly made by Ellen Grieco, seconded by Kathie Steinberg, the school committee voted unanimously (4-0) to authorize the Finance subcommittee to make any necessary edits they deem appropriate to the warrant article for submission by the deadline.

Brud Wright reported that the balance of the turf replacement fund is \$236,000, which represents monies collected by rec users of the turf field earmarked for the replacement costs, including construction costs. He reiterated the need to have a cohesive presentation, referencing the different articles and the collaboration involved.

3. Executive Session

(a) Discuss Strategy with Respect to Collective Bargaining with Custodians, WESA, and Food Service Workers, and Discuss Strategy with Respect to and in Preparation for Negotiations with Non-Union Personnel as Listed on the Meeting Notice, all pursuant to M.G.L. c.30A, §21(a)(2) and (3), including Potential Request for Funding at Fall Town Meeting

Upon a motion duly made by Ellen Grieco, seconded by Nate Buffum, the School Committee voted unanimously (4-0) to enter executive session at 8:03 PM to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with Custodians, WESA, and Food Service Workers, and discuss strategy with respect to and in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel as listed on the meeting notice, all pursuant to MGL c 30 A, 21(a)(2) and (3), including potential request for funding at fall town meeting as such discussion in open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the School Committee and an Executive Session is necessary to protect the bargaining position of the school committee. A roll call vote was taken as follows.

Roll Call	Yes	No
Ellen Grieco	X	
Jeanne Downs	absent	
Nate Buffum	X	
Kim Reichelt	X	
Kathie Steinberg	X	

The School Committee will be joined by Arthur Unobskey, Superintendent of Schools and Brad Crozier, Assistant Superintendent of Schools.

4. Financial Matter

(a) Possible Vote to Approve the Warrant Article to Request Funding at Fall Town Meeting for Negotiated Wage Settlements

Upon a motion duly made by Ellen Grieco, seconded by Kim Reichelt, the School Committee voted unanimously (4-0) to approve and submit to the Board of Selectman the warrant article regarding the negotiated wage settlements as discussed in Executive Session.

5. Adjournment

Upon a motion duly made by Ellen Grieco, seconded by Kim Reichelt, the School Committee voted unanimously (4-0) to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathie Steinberg
Wayland School Committee

Meeting Documentation
Draft Warrant Articles A, B & C
Draft CPC Warrant Article